

Stanzin Zompa, our very first student

She wrote us this letter to mark the school's 30th anniversary: "My name is Stanzin Zompa. I was born in a small village called Raru in 1990. That time there was no school in my village except a rented room by Government with hardly any teacher. There was no road at all, only small paths for yak or horses. At that time we had to bring all things from Padum on horses, donkeys or yaks. At that time our life was very difficult and we suffered a lot from our meager living conditions. In



1993, a trekking group called the Shambhala Group came to Raru. They met with the people of Raru and decided to open a private school. All the villagers agreed to this idea. I was very sad because my family was very poor and could not pay the school fees. I remember not being able to eat for two days, I was so disappointed. Days later, a member of the school staff came to us for breakfast and told us that Shambhala Charitable Trust will also sponsor poor children. I was very excited. Next year, more students joined and we studied a lot to get good marks at school. Gradually, our school became one of the best in the Zanskar Valley.

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How You can support our school Jamyang Ling

- **Membership of Shambhala e.V.**
(yearly fees € 60,-)
- **Sponsoring 1 Zanskari child monthly 20,-**
- **One time donations**

Due to the non-profit status of Shambhala e.V., tax-deductible donation receipts can be issued for all donations.

Bank account:
Kreissparkasse Reutlingen

IBAN:

DE79 6405 0000 0000 0195 34

SWIFT: SOLADES1REU

Thank You for Your support!



Shambhala e.V.



Zanskar Connection 2024

30 Years of Jamyang Ling

What an event: Jamyang Ling celebrated its 30th school anniversary on August 17, 2024! Speeches were given, there was a rich cultural program and, of course, as always, plenty of (butter) tea and lots of cookies. From the principal and teachers to the very youngest children and the villagers, everyone was there! Guests of honor from the government



also took part in the one day program.

A very special guest this year was Stanzin Zompa. We would like to introduce her: she was the first student to join the pre-school in 1994. In March of this year, she brought her youngest daughter Skarma to Jamyang Ling's kindergarten. This brings us to what had begun with her own school enrollment in 1994.

To continue with Stanzins letter:

We had many great teachers in our school who taught us a lot. After completing 9th grade, Shambhala opened a hostel in Jammu and we all went to Prof. Kotwal's private school. I graduated from here in 2011 and I was very proud!

After a year, I got a small job from the government as a teacher. After five years, I was given a permanent job by the government.

During this time, I married a young man from the village of Tangzay. His name is Stanzin Phunchok. We got married with the permission of both our families, who were both very poor.

So we arranged a small gathering with the closest family members, as we didn't have enough money to organize a big celebration.



And now I have four angels in my life, four wonderful daughters. We are very happy together.

When my sister-in-law's husband died two years ago, we took three of her children into our family.

My elder daughter is studying in Leh. This year, my

youngest daughter Skarma was admitted to my former school Jamyang Ling, where I was the first student at the time. She lives with her grandparents in Raru and goes to school every day.

I would like to thank the people of Shambhala Charitable Trust very much for making it possible for me to attend school in Raru and later on three years in Jammu at Professor Kotwal's Private School where I completed class 12. Without the foundation of the Jamyang Ling school and without all the support, I would never have been able to get this education. At all I am very grateful for that.

Stanzin Zomba, very first student in Jamyang Ling



In the valley of Zanskar, pure and bright, Stands a beacon of knowledge, glowing with light. Jamyang Ling Model School, humble and true, Guiding young minds with dreams to pursue.

On the mountain slopes, its wisdom grows, Where the wind of learning forever blows. With houses of Kailash and Ngari strong, They teach unity, where all belong.

Culture and spirit in every hall, Echoes of dances and sports call. From books to games, they shine with grace, In every student, there's a special place.

Pure and clean and youth day cheer, Lessons of kindness year after year. With every step, they rise and stand tall, Jamyang Ling, a home for one and all.

A lamp of knowledge, lit with pride, Where hearts are open, minds open wide. In the valley of Zanskar, beneath the sky, Jamyang Ling Model School soars high.

Composed by our headmaster Norbu Tsering



**Shambhala Charitable Trust meeting 2025
October 25, 2025 c/o Kurt Polzer
Waldstr. 14, 72116 Mössingen**

